

## **AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Claim 1 (Currently Amended)** A paint film forming method comprising applying color base paint onto parts made of acrylonitrile/butadiene/styrene resin or polycarbonate resin and then clear paint and curing the two paint films at a temperature of 60-70°C for 10-25 minutes to form a tackiness-free paint film,

wherein said clear paint comprises 60-90% by weight of a hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) and 10-40% by weight of a curing agent (B), based on the combined solid content of the acrylic resin (A) and the curing agent (B),

said acrylic resin (A) having hydroxyl value of 80-160 mgKOH/g and being prepared by radical-copolymerizing (a) 8-30% by weight of a primary hydroxyl-containing monomer selected from the group consisting of 4-hydroxybutyl (meth)acrylate monomers and ε-caprolactone-modified vinyl monomers obtained by ring-opening polymerization of ε-caprolactone with hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylate; (b) 10-40% by weight of secondary hydroxyl-containing monomer; and (c) 30-82% by weight of still other polymerizable unsaturated monomer, and

wherein the clear paint further comprises 1-20% by weight of hydroxyl-containing oligomer (C) which is a reaction product of a carboxyl-containing compound with an epoxy-containing compound, based on the combined solid content of the acrylic resin (A) and the curing agent (B).

**Claim 2 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the color base paint is one-package color base paint comprising polyester polyol having a hydroxyl value of 40-120 and aliphatic and/or alicyclic blocked polyisocyanate which is formed by blocking hydroxy compound- modified isocyanurate type polyisocyanate with dialkyl malonate and acetoacetic acid ester.

**Claim 3 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) has a hydroxyl value within a range of 100-140 mgKOH/g.

**Claim 4 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) has a weight-average molecular weight within a range of 5,000-20,000.

**Claim 5 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) has an acid value within a range of 0-40 mgKOH/g.

**Claim 6 (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 1, in which said  $\epsilon$ -caprolactone-modified vinyl monomer is represented by the following formula (I):



wherein

$\text{R}^1$  is hydrogen or methyl,

$\text{R}^2$  is  $\text{C}_2\text{-C}_6$ , and

n is an integer of 1-10.

**Claim 7 (Original)** The method according to Claim 6, in which  $\text{R}^1$  is hydrogen and  $\text{R}^2$  is ethylene.

**Claim 8 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the secondary hydroxyl-containing monomer (b) is selected from the group consisting of 2-hydroxypropyl (meth)acrylate, 2-hydroxybutyl (meth)acrylate, 3-hydroxybutyl (meth)acrylate and adducts of (meth)acrylic acid with an epoxy-containing compound.

**Claim 9 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the secondary hydroxyl-containing monomer (b) is 2-hydroxypropyl (meth)acrylate.

**Claim 10 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which other polymerizable unsaturated monomer (c) is selected from the group consisting of styrene, alkyl esters of (meth)acrylic acid and (meth)acrylic acid.

**Claim 11 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) is obtained by radical copolymerizing 10-25% by weight of the monomer (a), 15-35% by weight of the monomer (b) and 40-75% by weight of the monomer (c).

**Claim 12 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the curing agent (B) is an optionally blocked polyisocyanate compound.

**Claim 13 (Original)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the clear paint contains the acrylic resin (A) and the curing agent (B) at the ratio of, based on the combined solid content of the two, 65-85% by weight of the acrylic resin (A) and 15-35% by weight of the curing agent (B).

#### **Claims 14-15 (Cancelled)**

**Claim 16 (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl- containing oligomer (C) has a hydroxyl value within a range of 200-800 mgKOH/g.

**Claim 17 (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the hydroxyl-containing oligomer (C) has a weight-average molecular weight not higher than 1,000.

**Claim 18 (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the curing of the both paint films of the color base paint and clear paint is conducted by 2-coat-1-bake system or 2-coat-2-bake system.

**Claim 19 (Previously presented)** The method according to Claim 1, in which the curing is conducted at a temperature of 65-70°C for 15-20 minutes.

**Claim 20 (Withdrawn)** A clear paint comprising 60-90% by weight of a hydroxyl-containing acrylic resin (A) and 10-40% by weight of a curing agent (B), based on the combined solid content of the acrylic resin (A) and the curing agent (B),

said acrylic resin (A) having a hydroxyl value of 80-160 mgKOH/g and being prepared by radical-copolymerizing (a) 8-30% by weight of a primary hydroxyl-containing monomer selected from 4-hydroxybutyl (meth)acrylate monomers and  $\epsilon$ -caprolactone-modified vinyl monomers obtained by ring-opening polymerization of  $\epsilon$ -caprolactone with hydroxyalkyl (meth)acrylate; (b) 10-40% by weight of secondary hydroxyl-containing monomer; and (c) 30-82% by weight of still other polymerizable unsaturated monomer.

**Claim 21 (Withdrawn)** Painted goods obtained by the method as described in Claim 1.